

DRAFT

Health & Human Services Committee

Minutes

July 1, 2013

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, July 1, 2013 @ 6:30p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Sally DeFauw called the meeting to order. Members present were Marc Johnson, Jeff Metzger, Derek Tyson and Jeff Whelan. Mr. Emerson was absent. A quorum was present. Ms. Donna Moulton and Ms. Tammy Anderson were also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from June 3, 2013.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE – MS. DONNA MOULTON

Ms. Donna Moulton, Director of the DeKalb County Community Services Department, gave a brief update on her department. She said that she had just passed her CCAP Exam. She explained that Community Action agencies are moving towards accreditation and looking at having heightened standards. Part of the accreditation is that they are going to want to have every agency have a CCAP. Hopefully, she said that it will help out their department going forward.

Community Gardens are going along well, Ms. Moulton said. They are harvesting all sorts of fresh veggies and herbs by the Community Outreach Building. They are making these available for the Community Services clients and W.I.C. clients.

Chairman Metzger asked if Ms. Moulton could write a couple of paragraphs on this, he would place it in his column down in the Sandwich area.

She said that in the budget she will be asking for a little bit of money from the County, about \$23,000. This includes the \$9,000 insurance for a full-time employee. The person that she will be asking the money for is bi-lingual and bi-cultural. The hours would be increased to 40 hours a week.

Ms. Moulton's office was informed that \$16,000 will be cut from their Federal Grant money. She does not feel that this will hurt too much, as last year they received about a 20% increase because of DeKalb County's percentage of poverty relative to the State of Illinois. The Homeless Prevention grant that they receive from the State of Illinois is \$18,000 and they have about \$200.00 left on the table that they hope to get pledged. FEMA money they have no idea what is going on with them. They are really behind in handing out the money from FEMA.

VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT – MS. TAMMY ANDERSON

Ms. Tammy Anderson, Superintendent of the Veteran's Assistance Commission, gave a brief Annual Report to the committee.

Ms. Anderson said that they are now helping over 1,100 veterans with all types of claims and actions towards the Department of Veterans Affairs (877 Veterans in 2012).

She said that they have brought into this County almost \$500,000 in VA back-pay (\$673,265.00 in 2012).

They have been able to get awarded over \$49,000 in continuous monthly benefits from the VA (\$68,221.00 for 2012).

They have helped over 250 Veterans with VA claims for disability, pension, healthcare, education and miscellaneous (158 claims in 2012 Education was not included).

They gave over 115 rides to DeKalb County Veterans to VA hospitals located in Illinois and Wisconsin (195 in 2012).

They helped over 160 DeKalb County Veterans with shelter, food and utilities (302 in 2012).

They have been able to finally get access to some of the VA's computer programs to help keep Veterans up to date on the progress of their claims.

The committee thanked Ms. Moulton and Ms. Anderson for their very informative reports.

Chairman DeFauw said that before adjourning she wanted the committee to know that she has invited Ms. Michelle LaPaige to come to their August 2013 meeting to explain the Living Room Project at the Ben Gordon Center.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally DeFauw, Chairman

Mary C. Supple, Secretary